

## REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Present application is related to detergent or personal care composition containing capsules to deliver the oil or oil-soluble benefit agent. The claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over JP 02292229 ("JP '229"). Applicants respectfully submit that JP '229 relates to pharmaceutical capsules, wherein the present application relates to detergent or personal care compositions comprising surfactant external to the capsules, i.e. cleaning compositions. In a serious effort to advance the prosecution of the application as speedily as possible, however, applicants have amended the claims to include the allowable subject matter, for the indication of which applicants are grateful for the Examiner. Specifically, the subject matter of claims 8 and 14 has been incorporated into independent claims 1, 9 and 11. Consequently, it is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance.

With respect to the election requirement, applicants are electing, with traverse, as copolymer, tri-block polymer of the Kraton G type in particular Kraton G-1650, see page 10, last paragraph of the present specification. Applicants elect, with traverse, the hydrocarbon oil as mineral oil, see page 12, next to the last paragraph of the specification. Applicants elect, with traverse, the surfactant to be an anionic and/or nonionic surfactant, see the paragraph bridging pages 22 and 23 of the specification. Applicants elect, with traverse, the benefit agent for detergent compositions to be perfume, see paragraph 95 on page 23 of the specification. Applicants elect, with traverse, the benefit agent for personal care compositions (claim 11) to be vitamins, see paragraph 104 on page 25 of the specification.

Applicants, however, respectfully traverse the election requirement. Applicants' specification and examples are directed to the principle of encapsulating an oil-soluble benefit agent within capsules formed of thermoplastic polymer and hydrocarbon oil and incorporating these capsules into aqueous based cleaning

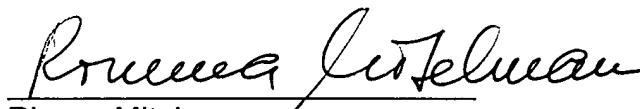
compositions. Thus, it is not seen as an undue burden to search such capsules made of thermoplastic polymer and the hydrocarbon oil incorporating oil or oil soluble benefit agent in the cleaning compositions. Consequently, it is respectfully requested that the election requirement be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Applicants respectfully request acknowledgement of the Examiner's consideration of Information Disclosure Statement and documents submitted therein on August 20, 2001 and Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement and documents submitted therein on February 27, 2003 (copies enclosed herewith for the Examiner's convenience).

In light of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully requested that the application be allowed to issue.

If a telephone conversation would be of assistance in advancing the prosecution of the present application, applicants' undersigned attorney invites the Examiner to telephone at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rimma Mltelman", written over a horizontal line.

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